# MIAMIBEACH

# **Presentations & Awards Meeting**

City Hall, Commission Chambers, 3rd Floor, 1700 Convention Center Drive February 26, 2014

Mayor Philip Levine Vice-Mayor Deede Weithorn Commissioner Michael Grieco Commissioner Joy Malakoff Commissioner Micky Steinberg Commissioner Edward L. Tobin Commissioner Jonah Wolfson

City Manager Jimmy L. Morales City Attorney Jose Smith City Clerk Rafael E. Granado

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#### ATTENTION ALL LOBBYISTS

Chapter 2, Article VII, Division 3 of the City Code of Miami Beach, entitled "Lobbyists," requires the registration of all lobbyists with the City Clerk prior to engaging in any lobbying activity with the City Commission, any City Board or Committee, or any personnel as defined in the subject Code sections. Copies of the City Code sections on lobbyist laws are available in the City Clerk's Office. Questions regarding the provisions of the Ordinance should be directed to the Office of the City Attorney.

Special note: In order to ensure adequate public consideration, if necessary, the Mayor and City Commission may move any agenda item to the alternate meeting date, which will only be held if needed. In addition, the Mayor and City Commission may, at their discretion, adjourn the Commission Meeting without reaching all agenda items.

Meeting called to order at 5:06 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by the Miami Beach Senior High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team.

Mayor Levine stated that they have a special guest in the audience today who agreed to come, because he is "all about" basketball and helping young people. He introduced his friend James Jones, three-point champion of the world, and two point champion of the Miami Heat.

James Jones thanked everyone for being here to recognize these young men (the Miami Beach Senior High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team) who are doing exceptional things with their lives and talents. James Jones expressed his gratitude to Coach Jacob Shaw because Mr. Jones was once a high school kid playing basketball, just because he loved the game, but did not know where that game could take him. Basketball took James Jones to the University of Miami, where he graduated with a degree in Finance. James Jones was drafted from the Indiana Pacers to come back home and play for the Miami Heat, where he and his team have been NBA champions twice in a row. James Jones has been to the NBA finals three times, and for a hometown kid that in itself is a dream realized that would not have been possible without his high school coach. Being on the players' side, James Jones knows how much time, energy and effort it takes a coach and to pour the coach's life into kids. James Jones' advice for these

young men is to work and dream - dream big but work harder, because the world is so much bigger than they know. When James Jones grew up, high school basketball was here (pointing to an imaginary line in space) and he went to college, and college was on another level, and to him, the NBA was up in the stratosphere, and it would not happen if he did not go to school every day. He hopes that they take this experience forward into their next endeavor, but never forget to give back as someone did for them, and hopes that one day they will be standing where he is, talking to young men who will be the leaders of the community. He congratulated the team and recognized them for their good work.

# **Presentations and Awards**

# 5:11:42 p.m.

PA1 Proclamation To Be Presented To The Miami Beach Senior High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team.

(Requested by Mayor Philip Levine)

**ACTION:** Proclamation presented. Mayor Levine read the proclamation into the record and proclaimed February 26, 2014 "Miami Beach Senior High School Varsity Basketball Team Day." Mayor Levine and City Commissioners also distributed Medals of Honor to each team player.

Certificates of Recognition were presented to Head Coach Jacob Shaw, and Assistant Coaches Alex Acevedo, Prince Tate and Luis Morin.

Mayor Levine recognized Miami Beach High School Principal John Joseph Donohue, Jr. in the audience.

Handouts or Reference Materials:

1. Miami Beach Basketball Club Stickers

#### 5:18:15 p.m.

#### New Item

Key to the City Presented to Miami Heat Player James Jones.

**ACTION:** Key to the City presented on behalf of the City of Miami Beach. He was also gifted a basketball signed by the Miami Beach High School Varsity Team players.

Vice-Mayor Weithorn recognized the cheerleaders in the audience.

Handout or Reference Materials:

1. List of Recipients

#### 5:23 p.m.

PA2 Certificate Of Recognition And Presentation By Representatives Of The Dolphins Cycling Challenge (DCC), A Charity Cycling Event That Took Place On November 2, 2013, Which Donates 100 Percent Of Rider-Raised Funds To Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center.

(Requested by Vice-Mayor Deede Weithorn)

**ACTION:** Certificate presented.

Vice-Mayor Weithorn explained that she rides for the Dolphins Cycling Challenge and stated that she missed one year because she was under treatment at Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Every dollar the Dolphins raises goes to Sylvester. They rode through the City this year, where they had one of the big bike rides in Miami Beach, with a wonderful beach party and gathering, and it was a huge success.

Michael Mandich, Dolphins Cycling Challenge CEO, stated that he is a beach resident, and the main reason he came today is to thank the City Commission and the City for their support and help in getting this event started. This past year they had over 600 people finish directly on Miami Beach, and over the two day Bike-A-Thon this past year they had over 2,800 participants. It is a partnership between the University of Miami and the Miami Dolphins, and every dollar raised goes to the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Last year they raised \$3.1 million dollars that stays in South Florida. In the past four years, they have raised almost \$7 million, which makes them the largest fundraiser for the NFL, and Miami Beach should be very proud of that fact as well. Many people he knows, along with Vice-Mayor Weithorn, have had run-ins with cancer and for them to keep up with the resources necessary, that is what the Dolphins Cycling strategy provides, and the doctors can provide lifesaving treatment for cancer in Miami. The future is that they will, in the tenth year, reach \$10 million on an annual gift, and the only way that they can do that is by having the neighborhoods take part in that; that is both people, volunteers, companies, businesses, and one dollar at a time, one person at a time, one mile at a time and Mr. Mandich is very passionate about this. This year they plan to finish a Saturday route on Miami Beach by Lummus Park. Mr. Mandich thanked the City of Miami Beach and hopes for their support in the future.

Mayor Levine recognized Michael's father, Jim Mandich, who was a Miami Dolphin Super Bowl player and a well-known broadcaster. Mayor Levine expressed his support for this fundraiser on behalf of the City Commission.

Vice-Mayor Weithorn explained that they ride in honor of the legacy Michael's father left. Michael is also quite a rider. They ride 12 or 13 miles, and there is no excuse not to ride. They do 170 miles over two days. She prefers to stop by and enjoy the beach party, but it is not impossible to do, and Vice-Mayor Weithorn has the tradition of riding with the two doctors that have treated her.

# 5:31:15 p.m.

PA3 Swearing-In And Badge Pinning Ceremony For Virgilio Fernandez, Fire Chief And Fire Marshal Of The City Of Miami Beach.

(City Manager's Office)

**ACTION:** Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, stated that one of the reasons why government was created is the preservation and promotion of public safety. There are many men and women in blue and red that put their lives on the line daily, and therefore, there is a tradition in this City when there is a transition in leadership, whether a new Police Chief or Fire Chief, not only does the City Commission have to vote to ratify the appointment, in this case the new Fire Chief, the newly appointed official is also honored by to having a ceremony where the new Chief receives his badge, which is pinned by someone special to them. The City Manager asked Virgil and his wife Monica to come up. The City Manager explained that he met Virgil years ago through a friend who was the President of the South Florida Firefighters, Genaro "Chip" Iglesias, who is here

today. Mr. Iglesias is the currently Deputy Mayor of Miami-Dade County. Virgil Fernandez will be a phenomenal Fire Chief and Fire Marshal; Virgil Fernandez will take the Fire Department to new levels.

Oath given by Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk.

Virgil Fernandez, Fire Chief and Fire Marshal, thanked everyone for this great opportunity. Chief Fernandez stated that he has much respect for this profession and for the men and women that wear the uniform daily for this country. It is extremely humbling for Chief Fernandez to be the leader of a group of such fine men and women. Chief Fernandez recognized his wife and son Danny, his brother Lou, his friends, and thanked the Fire Chiefs from Miami, Hialeah, Miami-Dade County, Hollywood and Coral Gables, who are present in the audience in support.

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, stated that the IAFF (International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1510) is having a reception after the meeting outside the Chambers to welcome the Fire Chief, and everyone is welcomed.

Handout or Reference Materials:

1. Oath

# 5:38 p.m.

PA4 Proclamation To Be Presented To John Oldenburg, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director, Who Is Retiring After Many Years Of Service To The City Of Miami Beach.

(City Manager's Office)

**ACTION:** Proclamation presented.

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, explained that it is with great pleasure that he recognizes John Oldenburg for his many years of service to the City. John Oldenburg has served for many years, currently in the role of Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; he has been part of a department that has grown, not only in terms of the number of children and adults that it serves, but has had tremendous growth in the facilities over those years. John Oldenburg has been an instrumental part of that, and unfortunately, he decided to take a break and retire and enjoy life, and John certainly has earned that opportunity, but they did not want to let John's retirement go without a proclamation.

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Department Director, stated that he only had the opportunity to know John Oldenburg for the past six months and John Oldenburg has been with the City for 26 years. Mr. Rebar has had the opportunity to work for several Park Departments in both Florida and Georgia, and one thing he noticed when he came to Miami Beach, that he immediately realized was the professionalism, the certifications and the expertise within the Green Space Division was second to none. People were actually licensed and trained and knew their plants and trees and their soils, and it was a pleasure to work alongside John Oldenburg and the team. John Oldenburg mentored several people along the way and they are true professionals as well. John Rebar introduced Julio Magrisso to say a few words.

Julio Magrisso, Assistant Director Parks and Recreation, stated that he worked with John Oldenburg for 11 years, and frankly, there is a whole list of accolades they could give John

Oldenburg for all of his efforts in the many parks John Oldenburg has worked in, but frankly, it does not do justice to the individual. Julio Magrisso and John Oldenburg have been through a lot, but Julio wants to recognize that John Oldenburg has been through a 26-year career with peaks, valleys, crashes and rallies. John Oldenburg is an individual with a tremendous amount of moral and ethics. John Oldenburg is one of the people that took Julio Magrisso on board when he first joined the City, and said, "I'm going to teach you the public sector." Julio Magrisso explained that he came to the City from the private sector and John Oldenburg taught him what being a public servant is like. John Oldenburg is a person who has earned tremendous amounts of respect from the individuals that work with him, and receives plenty of respect from individuals that only had one or two dealings with him. He is a family man, and frankly, it is a sad day for Julio Magrisso to be losing John Oldenburg. Julio Magrisso introduced John Oldenburg.

John Oldenburg is very grateful to have worked with so many professionals over the course of half his lifetime, and to call so many of his co-workers friends is an honor. John Oldenburg is grateful to have had the opportunity to experience and participate in a decade-long revitalization of the entire City, and that is special. It is not something that comes along for most people in the public sector in their entire career. He wished the City much success in everything that they do.

Mayor Levine read the proclamation into the record, and proclaimed February 26, 2014 "John Oldenburg's Day" in the City of Miami Beach.

## 5:47 p.m.

PA5 Proclamation To Be Presented To William Cary, Assistant Planning Director, Who Is Retiring After Many Years Of Service To The City Of Miami Beach.

(City Manager's Office)

## **ACTION:** Proclamation presented.

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, stated that William Cary is an individual who is known to anyone who cares about historic preservation and proper planning in this community. William Cary, Assistant Planning Director, is known for providing guidance to the elected officials and the Administration, in working with the community to ensure that the historic patrimony of the City always was first in the decisions made. The City Manager has had the chance to work with William in his private and public capacity in the past; William Cary is one of the finest public servants the City Manager has ever interacted with, but he wanted to ask Tom Mooney, Acting Planning Director, who has worked with him for a long time, to share a few thoughts about William.

Thomas Mooney, Acting Planning Director, stated that William Cary started with the City about 18 months after he did, and when William came on, the City was sort of a shell of itself in terms of Historic Districts. They had maybe a handful of Districts, and their process for reviewing architecture was a shell in itself and through William Cary's leadership, guidance and help, the City was able to begin to raise that bar. As William Cary leaves, one of the most telling things is that William is not somebody that is going to be able to be replaced. William Cary has had a big impact on him and on the senior staff that will follow in his footsteps. The Planning Department staff has learned so much from William Cary, and even though they do not express themselves with the same passion, they do have the same passion for good planning, good architecture, good urban design and good preservation. One of the things that will not be able to be replaced though

is the fact that William Cary has the ability to combine three attributes that are rare in one person;
1) A very strong background in historic preservation, 2) A very forward thinking approach to architecture, which is important in a City like Miami Beach, and 3) The ability to look forward and see architecture as something that continues to evolve. They will most importantly miss William Cary's experience as an architect, as somebody who has built. They have a strong team to carry on, but William Cary will not be easily replaced.

William Cary, Assistant Planning Director, thanked Tom Mooney. Tom Mooney was the first person William Cary met when he came to the Planning Department. Tom Mooney was always early in his office and took him around to meet everyone else eventually: Tom Mooney had an 18month head start, and Tom had already paved the way to make progress in Miami Beach. Back in 1994 when William Cary joined the City, there were five local Historic Districts and one National Registered Historic District; there was no preservation south of Sixth or north of 23<sup>rd</sup> streets. The Lowes Convention site was an empty lot next to the burned out and vacant St. Ritz Hotel. In 1995, they closed down the Royal Palm Hotel and built the first African-American owned hotel on the beach. Most of the hotels on Ocean Drive and Collins Avenue north of Tenth Street were still vacant and boarded up. Almost no restoration had taken place. The storefronts on Lincoln Road had gates and robberies occurred in broad daylight. South Pointe Park had become an "at your own risk venue" and the Fontainebleau and Eden Roc hotels were at the end of their economic lives, and were being advertised as teardowns for new investors. Today Miami Beach has 12 locally designated Historic Districts, four major Nationally Registered Historic Districts; those Districts offer major Federal tax preservation incentives for revenue generating properties. Two of the Districts are in North Beach now, one in Mid Beach and they have the South Beach District. Now they have world-class hotels and architects fighting to be present in the City. Every aspect of this new development preservation over the last two decades has been accomplished under the careful and discerning guidance of extraordinarily highly talented staff in the Planning Department. They constantly strive to raise the bar. The Planning Division kept raising the standards because they wanted to build permanent quality, both historic and new design quality into Miami Beach. William Cary distributed a brochure entitled Post-War Modern/MiMo and explained the process for restoration. Currently there are two National Registered Historic Districts in North Beach, the North Shore National Registered Historic District and the Normandy Isles National Registered Historic District that represent almost 700 buildings and only 1,000 in the Art Deco Districts. They only have Federal designation now, and they need to consider local designation, as any of the buildings could be demolished today. They now have the pride and stature of being nationally registered as historic sites, which makes them available for Federal preservation tax incentives. William Cary added that it has been an extraordinary privilege for him to work in the City with Tom, Richard, Debbie, James, Jake and Michael and everybody from the staff. William Cary has the utmost respect for them and he knows they will do a fantastic job.

Mayor Levine read the proclamation into the record and proclaimed February 26, 2014 "William Cary's Day" in the City of Miami Beach.

#### Handouts or Reference Materials:

1. Color Booklet titled Post-War Modern / MiMo – Design Guidelines, prepared by the City of Miami Beach Planning Department.

## 6:05:18 p.m.

PA6 Certificates Of Completion To Be Presented To The City Of Miami Beach Neighborhood Leadership Academy Graduates For Fall 2013.

(City Manager's Office)

**ACTION:** Proclamation presented to the following graduates: Annette Mason, Ashlyn Prato, Audrey Lehr, Barbara Morris, David Zuckerman, Dominique Cherqui, Edgar Sarli, Faye Goldin, Goddy Cruz, Helen Schwartz, Irene Rodriguez, Iris Mayaudon, John Bowes, Jose Luis Specht, Justen Thomas, Kamil Salame, Keith Darby, Kip Dugal, Kristen Rosen Gonzalez, Lateresa Jones, Leonardo Costa, Lorena Belanzo, Lucho Durand, Marlene Pross, Michael Lipari, Olga Garcia, Phillip Owi, Roberto Battagini, Sidney Goldin, Silvia Slobodova, Stephen Fox, Susan Speiser, Tamar Loeb, Tara West, Tovah Goldfarb, Jay Mosca and Valerie Navarette.

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, explained that one of the great assets that this community has is its citizenry, and a number of years back the City decided to begin to work hand in hand through the City of Miami Beach Leadership Academy, which is a civic program designed to give residents and business owners an "insider's look" at how the City government works and empower them to educate others about the public process in the community and get involved with the City government and the community. Mr. Morales acknowledged Caroline DeFreze and staff who put these courses together. This is the 25th session that is graduating. This is the Fall 2013 Class. It is a 15-week free class on Monday evenings in the Commission Chambers. Each week the class meets different department staffers and learns about the work each of them does. They also meet the leaders in the community, within the Administration, Commission and Mayor. There are over 800 graduates, and from this, they transitioned into projects, serving on City boards and committees and procurement and selection committees. Presently, 40% of the City's boards and committees consist of alumni of the program. They have an active alumni group that meets at least twice annually. Some alumni have become candidates for elected office, such as State Representative David Richardson and former Commissioner Jorge Exposito. For those that have not participated and are interested, the next class starts September 2014. Interested parties can sign up online or contact Caroline DeFreze in his office. He introduced the "Valedictorian" of the class, Helen Schultz.

Helen Schultz thanked Mayor Levine and the Commissioners for continuing with this great course. She has been a Miami Beach resident for three years and specifically chose Miami Beach because of its accessibility. She has been on the Disability Access Committee for three years and has taken Caroline DeFreze's Leadership Course. She learned a great deal about the City and is excited to keep volunteering for the City. She encouraged everyone who has not taken the course to definitely enroll.

Jason Weintraub, member of the Alumni Association, stated that once the graduates go through the program they are left in a position of what else could they do, so they created the Alumni Association to continue that grass-roots effort to stay involved, to be put on committees so they can help. They do an event twice a year and have a meet-and-greet. The Alumni Association has 800 alumni and encourages the new graduates to join the Alumni Association, visiting their website to sign up and join. The next event is April 9, 2014, and the new graduates are invited to attend.

City Manager Morales read the names of the graduates and certificates were distributed.

Handouts or Reference Materials:

1. List of graduates

## 5:59:56 p.m.

PA7 Proclamation To Be Presented To DJ Mark Leventhal, Who Passed Away On February 18, 2014. (Requested By Commissioner Michael Grieco)

**ACTION:** Proclamation presented posthumously.

Commissioner Grieco stated that Mark Leventhal was a friend of his, and a friend to many people in Miami Beach. Mark Leventhal was a DJ for decades and helped Miami Beach grow into what it is today. When people think of Miami Beach, they think of nightlife and tourism. What people do not know is that 60% of the City's budget comes from tourists, and Mark Leventhal can be given some credit for the growth of the tourism industry and the attention that the City has received over the last few decades. In the past, Commissioner Grieco was a DJ too, and Mark Leventhal and he knew each other through the process and he and Mark Leventhal became very good friends. Mark Leventhal was a friend to many people. Mark Leventhal died very suddenly, tragically, and way too young. Mark Leventhal lived a full life but not as long as it should have been, and it was a very sad day when he passed last week. When Mark Leventhal was in the hospital, there was an outpour of support from folks who have been involved for decades in the nightlife and restaurant industries. The Mayor and Commissioner Grieco attended an event to raise funds to cover medical costs. Some of Mark Leventhal's family is here today, including his son; and Commissioner Grieco thought it was appropriate to grant Mark Leventhal and his family a proclamation. Commissioner Grieco read the proclamation into the record. Commissioner Grieco proclaimed February 18, 2014 "Mark Leventhal Day" in the City of Miami Beach.

# **R9 - New Business and Commission Requests**

## 6:15:13 p.m.

R9A Public Library Advisory Board Appointments.

(City Manager's Office)

**ACTION:** Motion made by Vice-Mayor Weithorn; seconded by Mayor Levine to appoint Barbara Herskowitz and Christine Gudaitis to the Public Library Advisory Board; Voice vote: 6-0; Absent: Commissioner Wolfson. **Resolution No. 2014-28507 adopted.** 

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, stated that the history of this advisory board is that when the City merged its library system into the County system, the City actually received two positions on the County's Library Advisory Board, so that they could have influence on how the County system is advised, and both those positions are vacant. These two individuals submitted their names to the County. Barbara Herskowitz and Christine Gudaitis are both residents of the City, and these spots on the Library Advisory Board have been vacant for a while. It is important to have our input, especially with the possible cuts, it is important to have their influence on the board.

Vice-Mayor Weithorn stated that it is important that the members get up to speed, because the press has clung to the fact that the County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez would like to cut library expenditures, but there is a whole host of recommendations of cuts from the Task Force, and they need the residents involved and she hopes they are ready to get to work.

## 6:17:29 p.m.

R9B Request For Modification To The Design Criteria Professional RFQ Scope Of Work For The Miami Beach Convention Center Renovation Project.

(City Manager's Office)

**ACTION:** Discussion held. Motion made by Vice-Mayor Weithorn to approve the modification; seconded by Commissioner Grieco to approve the City Manager's recommendation; Voice-vote: 6-0; Absent: Commissioner Wolfson.

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager, explained that Administration has been moving quickly with the Convention Center project in trying to get the design criteria professional in place. This Friday they are having the industry pre-bid meeting. In the Memorandum that originally went out to the City Commission going forward with the RFQ, they indicated that they would have the flexibility to go up to 30% drawings. However, State law requires preparing an elaborate design package before they go to a design build RFP, and in some places, it is 10% or 20%. They wanted to give themselves some flexibility. In the RFQ itself, it does not state "may." This was discussed with the City Attorney's Office, and they want to make sure that the City Commission approves with giving Administration the flexibility to not have to go to 40%, but perhaps stop at 20% before documents are ready to go for design build.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Administration is authorized to have flexibility to not have to go to 40%, but perhaps stop at 20% before documents are ready to go for design build.

Handouts or Reference Materials:

1. Lobbyists List

## 6:18:37 p.m.

## **New Item**

Commissioner Malakoff reminded everyone that North Beach has the Food Truck Event from 5 to 10 p.m., and encouraged everyone to come out and show their support.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.